



# the marquee • Volume 16 no. 1

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE

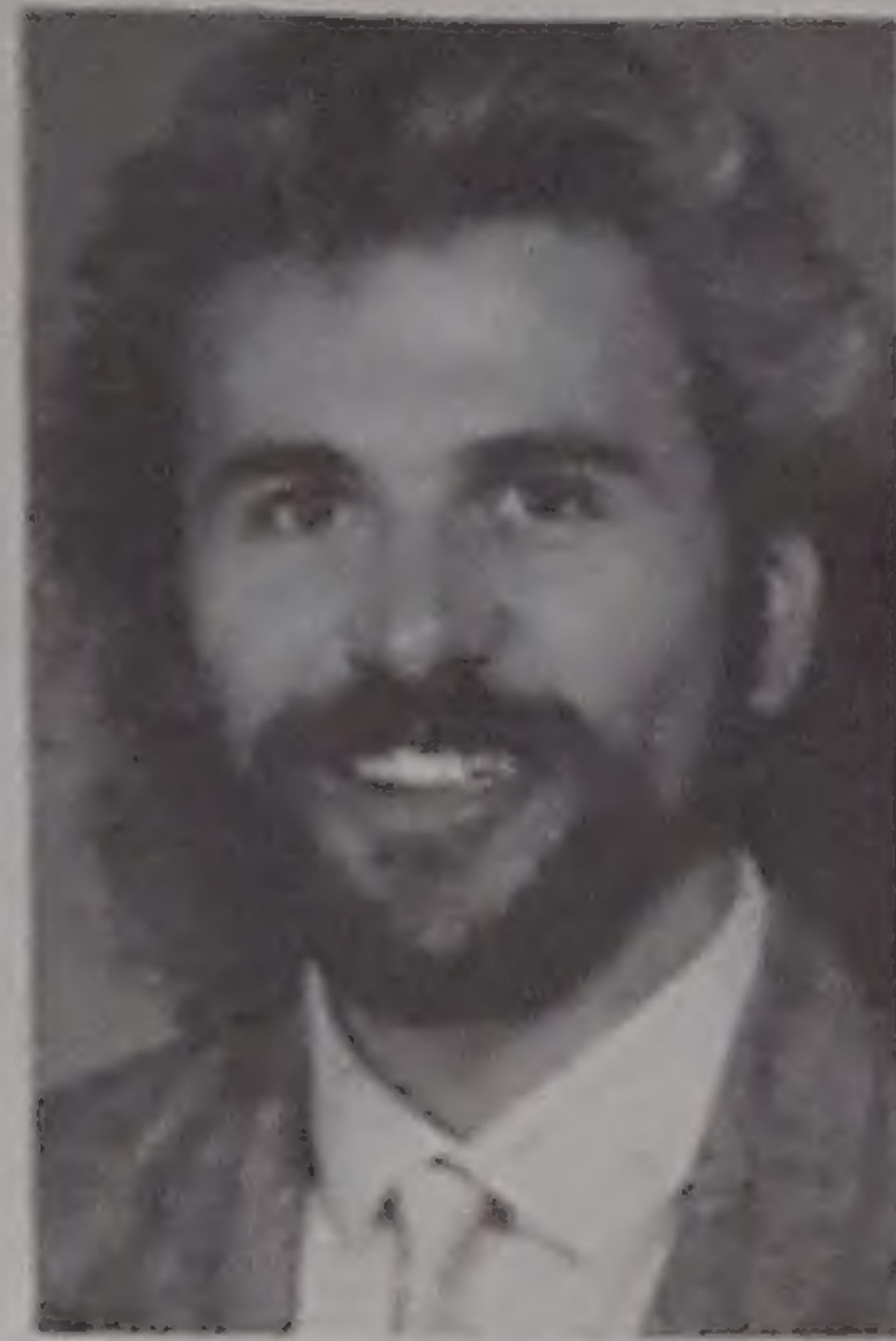
Fall 1989

## New Officers Elected

### Dr. John C. Hunter to Lead AKT in 1990



Mills



Kinen



Vick



Dr. John C. Hunter

Following an unfortunate delay, the election of new AKT officers for 1990 has been completed.

President-Elect is **John C. Hunter**, professor of Theatre/chairman of Art & Theatre Arts at Washburn University in Topeka.

A member of USITT and ATHE as well as AKT, Hunter has been involved in more than 100 productions since coming to Kansas in 1975. He holds a B.E. degree in speech/theatre from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and an M.F.A. in set and lighting design from Florida State University.

In Topeka, he has served as vice-

president of the Board of Trustees for the Topeka Performing Arts Center; as chairman of the Reformation Committee for the Topeka Area Arts Council, and as a theatrical consultant for a number of architectural firms involved in renovation projects in the area. Hunter just returned from a summer sabbatical in Australia, where he toured major theatre complexes and lectured at various universities.

**Philip John Kinen** has been selected as Chair-Elect of the Secondary School Division.

Kinen serves as speech/drama instructor at Pioneer Trail Jr. High in Olathe and

as artistic producer for Johnson County's "Theatre in the Park," which produces four major musicals each summer season. He is also a member of AKT's State Drama Curriculum Committee.

A speech/drama graduate of Marymount College, Kinen received his M.A. in Theatre Theory from Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg. In addition to directing plays for a wide variety of theatres in the Kansas City area, he has also conducted playwriting workshops with his students and will, this year, produce two of the plays developed in the workshops.

Chair-Elect of the Community Theatre Division is **Denny Vick**, president of the Hutchinson Theatre Guild.

An actor and director, Vick holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts from the University of Arkansas. Prior to coming to Kansas, he was an actor, director and member of the board of directors of Southwest Playhouse, Clinton, Oklahoma.

Vick also served as administrative coordinator for the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association. He is scheduled to direct Hutchinson Theatre Guild's production of *Veronica's Room* this spring.

He was 1989 Kansas AACT/FEST chairman.

Along with the elected officers, in an effort to increase operating efficiency for the board and to provide additional services to members, several new board members will be appointed by the president to serve in specific capacities during the coming year. (Continued on page 6)

### Manhattan Convention Planning Begins

With fall production schedules in full swing, classes resumed, etc., it's time to start thinking about the AKT annual meeting, and that is especially important this year since the convention will be held a month earlier than usual.

This year's meeting will be held in Manhattan the weekend of February 16-18, and the convention committee, under the direction of **Phil Kinen** of Lenexa, is already making big plans for the event.

"We're operating under a general theme of 'bringing artists together,'" Kinen said, "and we're really interested in getting input from the membership about what should be covered in meetings, what sort of workshops they'd like to see, etc."

Members with suggestions are urged to contact either Kinen or the Central Office in Wichita at 316-685-9306. So far, suggestions have included workshops in playwriting, directing, creative dramatics, media relations, computers, grant writing, etc., and seminars in areas such as theatre standards and measurements, role of AKT in Kansas theatre, etc. The committee is also considering several theatre professionals who will be in the area at that time to add their expertise in workshops and lectures.

"A number of theatres in the Manhattan area have scheduled productions that weekend, so we'll have a number of choices of things to do in our 'spare' time," Kinen continued. "We'll also have our traditional afterglows and banquet to conclude the convention, so it should be a terrific weekend for everyone."

Kansas State University Theatre has offered its facilities for use during the meeting, and the hotel selected also has meeting rooms available.

"The convention hotel is The University Inn (17th & Anderson, Manhattan, 66502)," Kinen said. "It's right across from the street from the KSU campus and about four blocks from Aggierville, so that we can park our cars in the motel lot Friday and not have to get into them again until we leave on Sunday."

Rooms are \$43 per night and should be reserved as soon as possible by calling the University Inn at 1-800-962-0014.

Further information will be available in special mailings and in the next issue of the *Marquee*.

# Donations Swell AKT Library's Script Collection

One of the AKT membership perks that continues to increase in popularity is the chance to borrow reading copies of scripts from the association library located in the Central Office. More than 500 titles are currently available, ranging from the classics and "old chestnuts" to recent Broadway hits.

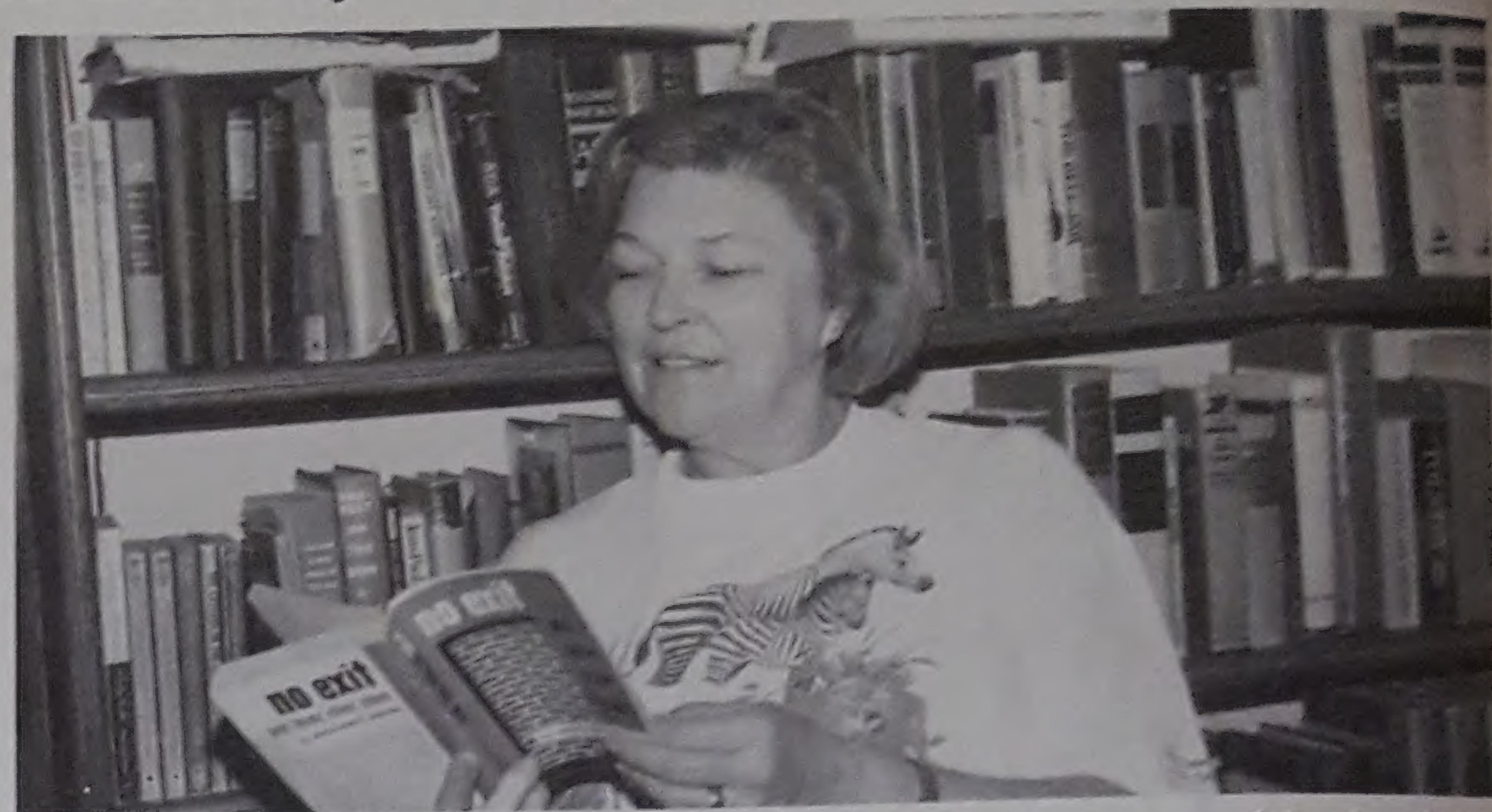
The AKT board of directors has hoped to add to the collection by allocating funds in each year's budget; unfortunately, because of financial problems recently, this wasn't possible.

That is not to say, though, that new titles have not continued to be added. Several AKT members have made it a point to donate scripts to the collection under a variety of circumstances.

**Beth Sifford**, a member of the Wichita Community Theatre, is, by her own admission, an avid reader and collector of avant garde plays, "...Fugard, Shepard, Lanford Wilson.

"I buy scripts I'd like to read from the various catalogues," she says. "At roughly \$4.50 apiece, these plays are cheaper than a paperbook. I also belong to the Fireside Book Club. That's another way to learn about new plays, and one that's not very expensive either."

While she enjoys her hobby, Sifford does admit to having a problem: after a while, storing this ever-growing collection of scripts can become a real nuisance. For her, donating copies that she



*Beth Sifford, a member of the Wichita Community Theatre, examines one of the plays in her personal library. In order to make room for her latest additions, Sifford, an avid reader, has donated a number of scripts to the AKT library.*

has already read to the AKT library is an easy solution.

"I like the idea of helping out the organization and the other theatre groups around the state," she continued, "and when someone asks me for a particular play, or if I want to re-read a favorite, I'll still have the copy available."

In addition to her personal donations, Sifford is also in favor of organizational members supporting the library.

"If people would get into the habit of ordering an extra script when they buy copies for their seasons, we could double

the size of the library in no time," she said. "Or, scripts ordered for the costumer or the property master could be kept together and sent to the library after the close of the show, and that would be a real addition to the library at no extra cost to the theatre."

This "Buy An Extra Script For AKT" idea is also popular in Kingman, according to **Dennie Griebel**, treasurer of the Prairie Players, Inc.

"With enthusiastic approval of our board of directors, we've been buying extra scripts and sending them to the library for the past couple of years," Griebel said. "It's not all that expensive, and we like the idea of contributing to a pool of plays that everyone can benefit from."

Chanute Community Theatre has also contributed scripts recently.

"We bought a number of scripts from the catalogues, but we didn't choose to cast any of the shows," said CCT member **Rick Bushnell**. "In order to get some use out of these plays, we decided to donate them to the AKT library."

Members of theatres who have copies of play scripts which they would like to donate to the AKT library should phone 316-685-9306, or mail contributions to the AKT Central Office, 949 Parklane, #332, Wichita, Kansas 67218. Donations are tax deductible.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of Kansas Theatre:

I hope autumn finds you well, and that you are actively involved in theatre activities. After a summer slump, the AKT Board of Directors has been quite active, with a renewed sense of direction and a stronger focus on AKT projects. Our desire is to move forward with this organization, and not allow it to become stagnant.

In August, the AKT Board spent a day and a half examining virtually every aspect of this organization. We started by taking a hard look at why the organization exists, and what needs to happen in order for it to thrive. After evaluating AKT's original goals, we developed an ideal organizational structure which would allow us to best achieve these goals. This structure included such things as: a full-time executive director; a shift in emphasis from divisional activities to projects which often cross divisional boundaries; an expanded board of directors composed of people assigned specific tasks, such as fund raising, membership, legislative liaison, etc.; and pursuing more projects which focus on the needs of theatre people and organizations throughout the state.

Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to fully implement this new scheme. We have already begun, however, to accomplish what we can, given the limited money we have with which to operate. We have added new board mem-

bers who are dedicated to accomplishing single tasks more efficiently than is possible by the entire board. We have a new focus on projects which will help AKT better serve the needs of Kansas theatre. We are dedicated to expanding AKT membership, and improving the services we offer these members.

As a result of these efforts, I am optimistic about the future of AKT and its potential benefits to theatre in this state. Please help our efforts by volunteering to help where you can and by letting us know how we can work together to advocate quality theatre in Kansas.

Lendley Black

## Innovations of the Century -

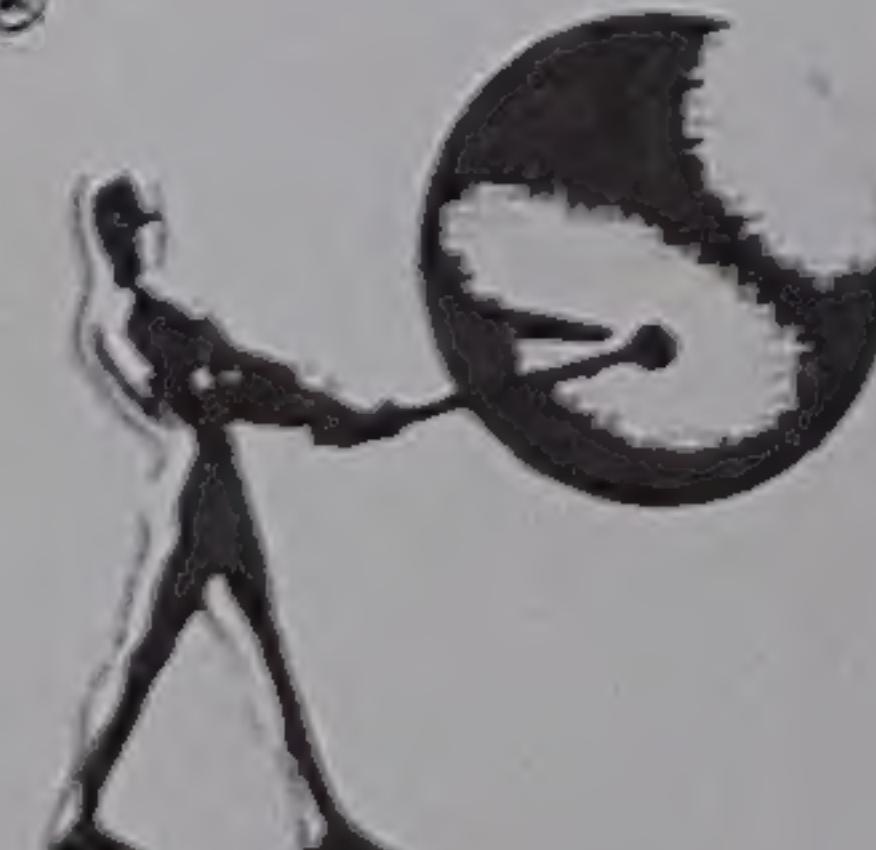
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316-263-4415**

# Attend An AKT Member Theatre This Year

**ACTORS PLAYHOUSE  
of the WICHITA ART ASSOCIATION**  
Wichita (316) 686-6687  
*Saint Joan* - Dec. 7-9 & 14-16  
*Baby* - March 1-3 & 8-10  
*Driving Miss Daisy* - April 26-28 & May 3-5  
(subject to release)

**BAKER UNIVERSITY THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Baldwin (913) 594-6451, ext. 481  
*The Dining Room* - Nov. 2-4

**BARTON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (AKT-D)**  
Great Bend (316) 792-2701  
*Musical TBA* - March 8-10  
*The Boys Next Door* - April 26-28

**BETHANY COLLEGE THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Bethany (913) 227-3311, ext. 257  
*To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday* - Nov. 1-4  
*TBA* - March 7-10  
*Student-Directed One-Acts* - May 3-5

**BOOT HILL MUSEUM REPERTORY COMPANY**  
Dodge City (316) 227-8188  
*Charlie Sent Me* - Oct. 26-29, Nov. 2-5 & 9-11  
*Some Things You Need to Know*  
*Before the World Ends* - Jan. 11-14, 18-21 & 25-27  
*The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate*  
*Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society*  
*Murder Mystery* - Feb. 15-18, 22-25 & March 1-3  
*Angry Housewives* - April 12-15, 19-22 & 26-28

**CHANUTE COMMUNITY THEATRE**  
Chanute (316) 431-3213  
*The Trip to Bountiful* - mid-February  
*Steel Magnolias* - late April

**DODGE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE LITTLE THEATRE**  
Dodge City (316) 225-1321, ext. 244  
*The Runner Stumbles* - Nov. 17-19  
*The Importance of Being Ernest* - Feb. 23-25

**EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Emporia (316) 342-5374  
*The Glass Menagerie* - Nov. 28-Dec. 2  
*The Lion in Winter* - Feb. 21-24  
*Faulty Shorts* - April 11-14

**FAIRY TALE PRODUCTIONS**  
Overland Park (913) 888-6619  
*Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs* - March 6-18

**HUTCHINSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Hutchinson (316) 665-3534 or 665-3503  
*A Christmas Carol* - Nov. 30-Dec. 3  
*The Drunkard (a musical)* - March 8-10  
*Ghosts* - April 26-29

**FORT HAYS STATE THEATRE**  
Hays (913) 628-4225  
*Brighton Beach Memoirs* - Nov. 16 - 19  
*Arsenic and Old Lace* - March 1 - 4  
*Steel Magnolias* - April 26 - 29

**HUTCHINSON THEATRE GUILD**  
Hutchinson  
*A Christmas Carol* - Nov. 30-Dec. 3  
*Veronica's Room* - February 1990  
*Round and Round the Garden* - April 1990

**JOHNSON COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Overland Park (913) 469-8500, ext. 3933 or 3689  
*The Decline & Fall of the Entire World*  
*As Seen Through the Eyes of Cole Porter* - Nov. 16-18  
*The Boy Who Talked to Whales* - Feb. 22-24  
(children's theatre)  
*Distilling Spirits* - March 15-17  
*Children of a Lesser God* - April 26-28

**K-STATE PLAYERS (AKT-D)**  
Manhattan (913) 532-6398 or 532-6275  
*The Art of Dining* - Nov. 9-11 & 15-18  
*Good* - Feb. 8-10 & 14-17  
*Cost Fan Time* - Feb. 27-28 & March 2, 5, 6  
*Medea* - April 19-21 & 25-28

**LAWRENCE COMMUNITY THEATRE**  
Lawrence (913) 843-7469  
*Talk Radio* - Nov. 3-5 & 9-12  
*The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* - Dec. 8-10 & 14-17  
*Death of a Salesman* - Jan. 26-28 & Feb. 1-4  
*Angel Street* - March 30-April 1 & April 5-8  
*Is There Life After High School?* - May 10-13 & 17-20

**MARYSVILLE AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Marysville (913) 562-2851  
*The Mystery of Edwin Drood* - Dec. 9-10

**McPHERSON COLLEGE THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
McPherson (316) 241-0731, ext. 210  
*Evening of One-Acts* - Jan. 12-13  
*The Arkansaw Bear* - March 2-3 & 9-10  
*Little Shop of Horrors* - April 27-28 & May 4-5

**PAOLA CULTURAL CENTER (AKT-D)**  
Paola (913) 294-2397  
*Pleasures of Pan* - Nov. 4  
*Sleeping Beauty* - Dec. 2  
*Festival of Carols* - Dec. 10  
*Appaloosa Girl: Adventures in the Kansas Desert* - Jan. 26  
*Steve Smith & the Radio Days Orchestra* - Feb. 25

**RUSSELL COMMUNITY THEATRE, INC. (AKT-D)**  
Russell (913) 483-3195  
*Social Security* - March 30-31 & April 6-7

**SALINA COMMUNITY THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Salina (913) 827-6126  
*The Sunshine Boys* - Dec. 1-3 & 6-10  
*Steel Magnolias* - Feb. 2-4 & 7-11  
*Murder at the Vicarage* - April 27-29 & May 2-6  
*Baby* - June 29-30, July 1, 5-8 & 12-15

**SHAWNEE MISSION NORTH HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE**  
Overland Park (913) 384-5151  
*Advanced Repertory Theatre Show* - Nov. 14-15  
*Minnesota Moon & Graceland* - Dec. 6 & 8  
*Original One-Acts* - Dec. 7 & 9  
*Oliver!* - Jan. 25-27  
*Thieves* - March 7 & 9  
*Quilters* - March 8 & 10  
*Wild Oats* - April 18-21  
*Advanced Repertory Theatre Show* - May 9-10

**STERLING COLLEGE THEATRE (AKT-D)**  
Sterling (316) 278-2173, ext. 279 or 365  
*The Member of the Wedding* - Feb. 15-17  
*The Hollow* - March 1-3  
*Scapino* - April 26-28  
*An Evening of One-Acts* - May 10-11

**SUMNER ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCE (AKT-D)**  
Kansas City (913) 321-6304  
*Trial by Jury & The Bear* - Nov. 17-18  
*Death Takes a Holiday* - Dec. 8-9  
*Rumpelstiltskin* - February (trouped)  
*The Marriage* - March 16-17  
*The Art of Killing Time* - April 20-21  
*Please, No Flowers* - May 10

**THEATRE ATCHISON (AKT-D)**  
Atchison (913) 367-1647  
*The Odd Couple (female version)* - Dec. 1-3 & 8-10  
*Stage Struck* - Feb. 9-11 & 16-18

(Continued on page 4)

# Support Sought For 'Theatre In Our Schools'

Dear fellow Kansas artists and educators in the field of drama/theatre:

At its August conference in New York, the **American Alliance for Theatre and Education**, the national organization of artists and educators serving young people, officially designated a month to celebrate theatre for youth. March 1990 is to be "Theatre in Our Schools Month". The effort will be similar to the "Youth Art Month" and "Music in Our Schools" promotions already operating throughout the country.

To initiate this celebration in the state of Kansas, I have agreed to serve as the state chairperson for this initial "Kick-Off" year. **Margaret McClatchey** of Shawnee Mission North High School and **Phil Kinen** of Pioneer Trail Junior High in Olathe have both agreed to serve on the statewide committee. We are in need of representation from other geographic areas of the state. If you are interested in serving, please contact me.

First, we are needing to know what *Theatre in Our Schools* activities are already going to be happening in your

organization, school, or classrooms. Have you already scheduled a production, a field trip to a theatre, a tour, a class unit in drama, a special class, etc.? If so, please send us the information so we can make a comprehensive statewide listing.

Secondly, we are needing to know if there is something your organization, school or classroom could do to celebrate *Theatre in Our Schools* month. In the next issue of the *Marquee*, a dream list of ideas that were presented in New York City will be published. Also, below is the sample resolution that needs to be passed by legislatures, county governments and mayors. Please let us know what your group can do.

At **Theatre for Young America**, we are planning to celebrate the month by announcing it in our programs for "Con-

necticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court" and "The Hare and the Tortoise", both in March; announcing it at our post-performance discussions that follow weekday productions; celebrating it in our acting classes program; announcing it in all all March Outreach drama classes we teach in the schools, and by a display in our lobby.

We know that drama/theatre study has a positive impact on the growth and development of young people, and here is our chance to celebrate it and make others aware of its importance. I hope you join us, however you can, in celebrating March as *Theatre in Our Schools* month.

Sincerely,  
**Sheryl Bryant**

## Schedule, cont'd...

(Continued from page 3)

### THEATRE FOR YOUNG AMERICA (AKT-D)

Overland Park (913) 648-4600

*Beauty and the Beast* - Oct. 25-Nov. 19\*  
*The Elves and the Shoemaker* - Nov. 29-Dec. 23\*  
*James and the Giant Peach* - Jan. 17-Feb. 11\*  
*A Connecticut Yankee*  
in *King Arthur's Court* - Feb. 21-March 18\*  
*The Hare and the Tortoise* - March 22-April 18\*\*  
*Pippi Longstocking* - April 25-May 20\*  
*The Phantom Tollbooth* - June 6 - June 24\*

\* Dark Mondays

\*\* Dark Sunday, April 15; Performance Monday, April 16

### A Resolution DESIGNATING MARCH AS THEATRE IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

WHEREAS, theatre, as all art, is an important part of the human experience; and  
WHEREAS, theatre and drama invite young people to view an expanded world of ideas; and  
WHEREAS, theatre has the ability to demonstrate valuable lessons about universal concepts, i.e.  
prejudice, loneliness, honor or love; and  
WHEREAS, teachers can offer classroom variety through creative drama and role playing;  
and  
WHEREAS, 90% of patrons who attend the theatre regularly first saw plays as a child; and  
WHEREAS, theatre is a vital part of the cultural life of any community; and  
WHEREAS, children can gain confidence and improve self-esteem when confronted with  
dramatized stories and experiences; therefore, be it  
RESOLVED that March be designated as Theatre In Our Schools Month.

### TOPEKA CIVIC THEATRE (AKT-D)

Topeka (913) 357-5213

*The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* - Oct. 20-Nov. 5  
*I Do! I Do!* - Nov. 24-Dec. 23  
*Boys Next Door* - Jan. 19-Feb. 10  
*Do Black Patent Leather Shoes*  
*Really Reflect Up* - March 2-31  
*Alone Together* - April 20-May 12  
*Broadway Bound* - June 1-23

### THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS THEATRE

Lawrence (913) 864-3982

*Macbeth* - Nov. 10-11 & 16-18  
*Pygmalion* - March 1-4  
*The Consul* - April 4-5 & 7-8  
*Tent Meeting* - May 3-6

### UNIVERSITY THEATRE - THE WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY (AKT-D)

Wichita (316) 689-3233

*Everything You Always Wanted* - Nov. 1-5  
*Another Antigone* - Dec. 7-9  
*Hamlet* - Feb. 7-10  
*Nora* - March 1-3  
*The Effects of Gamma Rays*  
*On Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds* - April 4-7  
*Birth and After Birth* - April 26-28

### WICHITA COMMUNITY THEATRE

Wichita (316) 686-1282

*Three Men on a Horse* - Dec. 5-10  
*Frankie & Johnny & The Clair de Lune* - Jan. 11-14  
*The Little Foxes* - Jan. 24-28  
*Torch Song Trilogy* - March 1-4  
*The Mousetrap* - April 18-22  
*In a Room Somewhere* - May 10-13

**(AKT-D)** — Discounted tickets available to AKT members who make advance reservations and present a current AKT membership card at the box office.



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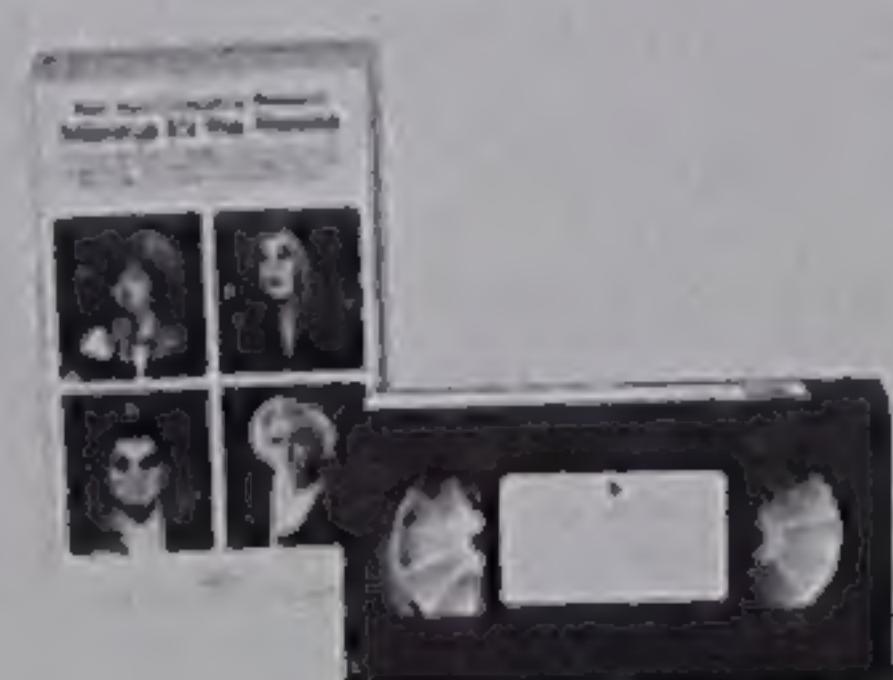
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# Marquee

*Marquee* is published monthly as a membership service of the Association of Kansas Theatre, Inc. Members are encouraged to submit information and articles about their work, special interests, honors/awards, or issues of concern to the general membership.

The mention of a product, service, publication, conference, workshop, meeting, etc., in *Marquee* does not constitute endorsement or sponsorship, nor is it an indication of quality by *Marquee* or the AKT unless specifically stated.

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**John A Gedraitis**  
Executive Director/Editor

## Have You Renewed For 1990?

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are valid

**September 1 to August 31**

of each year

Make check payable to "AKT"

#### CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

##### Individual

Regular	\$18
Student/Senior	\$10

##### Organizational

Small (Budget: Under \$5,000/yr)	\$35
Medium (Budget: \$5,000-\$9,999/yr)	\$40
Large (Budget: Over \$10,000/yr)	\$70

##### Contributing

Contributors	\$50- \$99
Friends	\$100- \$249
Donors	\$250- \$499
Sponsors	\$500- \$999
Patrons	\$1000-\$4999
Benefactors	\$5000 and up

#### VISA/MASTERCARD Circle One

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Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Division Affiliation (check one)

- Children's Theatre
- Community Theatre
- Professional Theatre
- Secondary School Theatre
- University/College Theatre

Mail this application with your check to:

**AKT Central Office**  
949 Parklane, Suite 332  
Wichita, Kansas 67218  
(316) 685-9306

## AKT Officers...

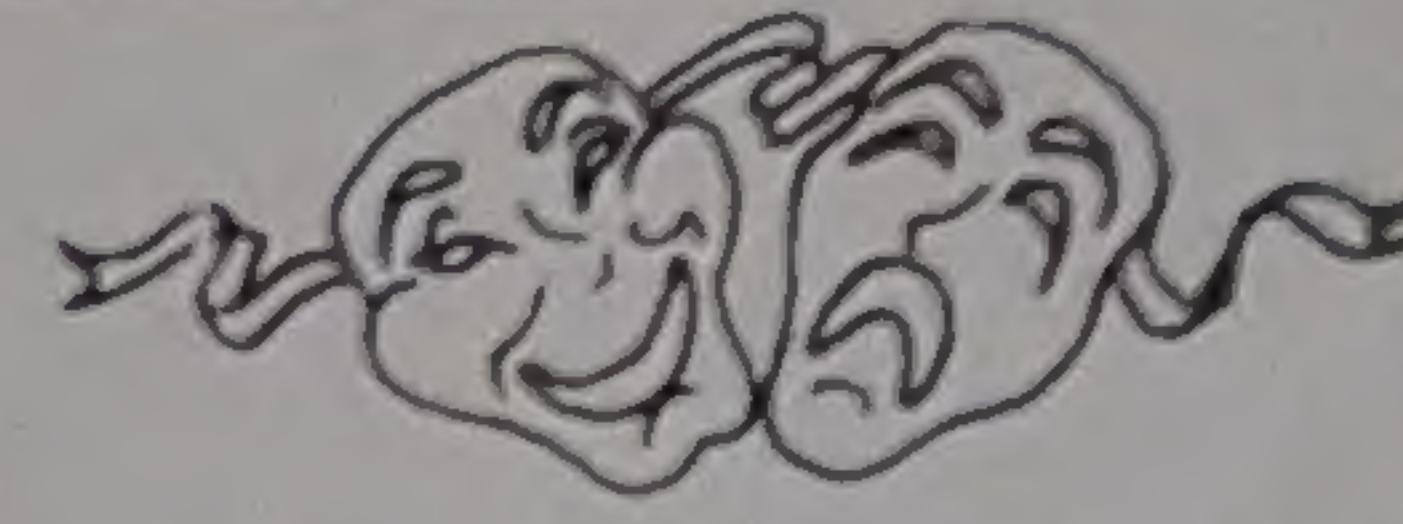
(Continued from page 1)

The first of these new additions is **Stephen C. Mills, M.D.**, who has been appointed as Membership Chair by AKT president Lendley Black.

Mills holds a B.S. degree in physiology from Oklahoma State University and an M.D. from the University of Oklahoma. In community theatre work, he has been the founding vice-president of the Okinawa Theatre Guild, Japan; and an

officer and board member for the Newport Players Guild, Newport, R.I.; Southwest Playhouse, Clinton, Okla.; and the Hutchinson Theatre Guild. He has also served as president and on the board of the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association.

Community Coordinator for the 1989 Kansas AACT/FEST, Mills also has a lengthy list of credits as an actor and lighting technician for a number of different community theatre groups.



## AKT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Lendley Black, President

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Emporia State University  
Emporia, KS 66801  
(W) 316-343-5421  
(H) 316-342-5199

### John Hunter, President-Elect

Art & Theatre Arts Department  
Washburn University  
1700 College  
Topeka, KS 66621  
(W) 913-357-5213  
(H) 913-267-7961

### Ron Frederickson, Past President

Box 37  
Emporia State University  
Emporia, KS 66801  
(W) 316-343-5226  
(H) 316-343-6296

### Mary Orr, Secretary-Treasurer

Topeka Civic Theatre  
534½ N. Kansas  
Topeka, KS 66608  
(W) 913-357-5213  
(H) 913-267-7961

## DIVISION CHAIRS

### Children's Theatre

#### Jeanne Klein, Chair

Department of Theatre & Film  
317 Murphy  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, KS 66045  
(W) 913-864-4110  
(H) 913-843-3744

### Professional Theatre

#### Repha Buckman, Chair

Tri-Crown Enterprises  
Box 175  
Sterling, KS 67579  
(H) 316-278-3248

### Community Theatre

#### Jackie Hinton, Chair

Theatre Atchison  
401 Santa Fe  
Atchison, KS 66002  
(W) 913-367-1647  
(H) 913-367-5050

### Community Theatre

#### Denny Vick, Chair-Elect

104 Crescent Boulevard  
Hutchinson, KS 67502  
(H) 316-662-9202

### Secondary School Theatre

#### Terry Simmons-Lee, Chair

R.R. 1, Box 50  
Walton, KS 67151  
(H) 316-367-8482

### Secondary School Theatre

#### Philip John Kinen, Chair-Elect

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